

SCOTT M. MATHESON  
Governor



*File*

OIL, GAS, AND MINING BOARD

GORDON E. HARMSTON  
*Executive Director,*  
NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE OF UTAH

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING

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*Director*

July 12, 1978

Mr. Thomas Miller  
Vipont Mines, Limited  
Box 267  
Oakley, Idaho 83346

*Re: ACT-003-005*

Dear Mr. Miller:

I visited the Vipont Mine on July 5, 1978. Mr. Melugin was kind enough to answer my questions and show me around.

Please recall that you appeared before the Utah Board of Oil, Gas, and Mining on July 20, 1977 concerning the operation. The Board decided that you must follow the regular procedure as set forth under the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act; ie., you must file the necessary notice of intent and mining and reclamation plan. The Board agreed that an agreement or contract describing work performed or will be performed, in the tailings area for reclamation would be sufficient; however, the full mining operation requires a reclamation bond. Since you are operating without final approval and the required reclamation contract and bond you are in violation of the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act.

Before the Division can grant approval to mine we require a map of the surface facility area. The map should include the heap leach facilities, reworked tailings disposal areas, present location of tailings to be disturbed, roads, buildings, the two entries and drifts constructed, waste rock disposal areas, drill holes, stream channels, springs, and existing disturbance and workings not caused by or used by your company. The Division would also like to have a narrative concerning final grading, stabilization, and revegetation of the reworked tailings and waste rock piles. Location, slope grades, and drainage should be addressed.

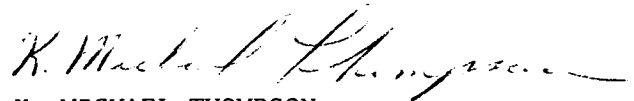
Mr. Melugin stated that you may divert Birch Creek during the period of tailings removal. A Stream Channel Alteration Permit must be obtained from the

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State Engineer, Water Rights, 442, State Capitol, Salt Lake City, Utah, before work commences. Diversion of Birch Creek and its restoration should also be addressed in the Mining and Reclamation Plan.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact either Ron Daniels or myself.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "K. Michael Thompson".

K. MICHAEL THOMPSON  
RECLAMATION HYDROLOGIST

KMT/sp